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Wyoming Guard helps teens find personal freedom

CHEYENNE – Some of the nation's most influential teens will help Wyoming students fight for their personal freedom through a large scale, multiple screen program called "Freedom Calls."

The Wyoming National Guard's Counterdrug Program will host free showings of "Freedom Calls" at six schools around the state and one showing at the Civic Center, in Cheyenne, from Jan. 29-Feb. 2.

The 40-minute video production uses three screens to tell the story of a teenager whose father is deployed. The story line involves topics of youth drug abuse and ambition.

"We want to help our young people develop conviction, courage and ambition," Capt. Eric Green, Wyoming National Guard Counterdrug Program operations officer, said. "Freedom Calls' help teens learn you have to fight to make good choices. That's the definition of personal freedom."

Two teens who have made good and bad choices tell their stories during the production. Nineteen-year-olds Megan Hakeman, spokesman for the National Inhalant Prevention Association, and Ashley Tang, a college student who achieved national notoriety for overcoming adversity, are among the highlights of the video.

Teachers will be provided lesson plans and follow-up materials to go with the screenings.

The following is a schedule of screenings for “Freedom Calls:”

Jan. 29 – 9 a.m., Cheyenne Civic Center

Jan. 30 – 9 a.m., Douglas Middle School

Jan. 30 – 1:30 p.m., Glenrock Middle School

Jan. 31 – 9 a.m., Riverton High School

Jan. 31 – 2 p.m., Riverton Middle School

Feb. 1 – 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m., Dubois Middle/High School

Feb. 2 – 1 p.m., Mountain View High School